

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Final Office Action dated December 22, 2004. Applicant has cancelled claims 1-9. Claims 10-23 are pending.

Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment, and submits that the Amendment places the Application in condition for allowance. In addition, because the Amendment merely cancels claims, the Amendment should require no further search, nor consideration of any new issues. Therefore, Applicant requests that the Examiner enter the Amendment, and immediately allow the Application.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the final Office Action, the Examiner rejected: claims 1-5, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arand et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,021,349); claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arand et al. in view of Fraser et al. (U.S. Patent Des. 366,258); and claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arand et al. in view of Jung (U.S. Patent No. 6,243,819). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. The applied references fail to disclose or suggest the inventions defined by Applicant's claims, and provide no teaching that would have suggested the desirability of modification to arrive at the claimed invention.

Nonetheless, Applicant has cancelled claims 1-9, rendering these rejections moot. Applicant has cancelled claims 1-9 in order to expedite allowance of this Application. However, Applicant reserves the right to pursue the cancelled claims in one or more continuation applications.

Allowed Subject Matter

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 10-23 are allowed in their present form.

CONCLUSION

All claims in this application are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of all pending claims. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 50-1778. The Examiner is invited to telephone the below-signed attorney to discuss this application.

Date:

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SHUMAKER & SIEFFERT, P.A.
8425 Seasons Parkway, Suite 105
St. Paul, Minnesota 55125
Telephone: 651.735.1100
Facsimile: 651.735.1102

By:

Jason D. Kelly

Name: Jason D. Kelly
Reg. No.: 54,213